Jusserand, Hon. J J [Ambassador of the Republic of France] July 1916-June 1917

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AMBASSADE
DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE
AUX ÉTATS-UNIS

Washington, le July 5, 1916.

Dear Mr. President,

I shall be only too happy if I can be of use and help you to secure a French scholar who could give sound teaching in your University, and thus serve both his native land and Canada.

In similar circumstances, several American Universities had recourse to Professor Bédier, of the "Collège de France", the well-known successor of Gaston Paris, who knows well the worth and ability of young professors; and he made choices which I hear gave complete satisfaction.

If you allow me to do so, I shall write to him concerning your purpose and I am sure he will do his best in order to find for you the proper person.

Offering you my best thanks for the friendly feeling

President Robt.A. Falconer,
University of Toronto,
Toronto, Ont.,
Canada.

feeling which prompted your request, I beg you to believe me, dear Mr. President,

Most sincerely yours,

Jusserand

June 19th, 1917.

His Excellency, Hon. J. J. Jusserand,

Ambassador of the Republic of France,

Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. Ambassador:

I have to thank you very sincerely for all the pains you have been to in regard to securing for us a gentleman who might take a position in French, and I am particularly grateful for your having sent the name of M. Colens who has been so strongly endorsed by Professor Bedier and Professor Legouis. I am sure that Mr. Colens would be an admirable man for us. However, shortly before I received your letter and spoke to you on Saturday at Princeton I had arranged with a French gentleman who has been on the Princeton staff, M. Marcel Moraud, to come to us and take an appointment next winter. Mr. Moraud was sent to this country also by Professor Bedier. He has been wounded in the war and owing to the diminution in the numbers at Princeton has had to look for a new place. We have therefore been extremely fortunate in securing him. Owing also to our own reduced numbers we shall not need any further help such as Mr. Colens could give for next winter.

May I ask you to be kind enough to convey our heartfelt thanks to M. Bedier and say to him that having this other pupil of his for next winter I should like to defer further action with regard to any French appointment until after the war is over ? I will, however, keep the name of Mr.

Colens beside me and it is quite possible that before very long we may be able to find some position which I am sure he would fill with great distinction.

Will Your Excellency allow me again to thank you for your personal interest in this matter ? At the same time will you let me express to you how much I enjoyed your address last Saturday at Princeton.

Yours sincerely,

President.

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September 15th, 1916

His Excellency,

Hon. J. J. Jusserand, LL.D.,

Embassy of France,

Washington, D.C.

My dear Sir:

I am taking the liberty of asking you to do us a great favour. We have for some years been hoping that it would be possible for you to come to Toronto and deliver a lecture in the University. Hitherto, however, your engagements have prevented you from coming, or we have not on our part perhaps placed our request strongly enough before you, but we hope that we shall now have more success and that you will find it possible to come to Toronto during the autumn or early winter and give us an address on a subject of your own choosing.

We are well aware that you might easily take some literary theme and discuss it with great distinction, but probably a more general subject such as arise out of some phase of the war might at the present time arouse a greater interest in the public at large. We believe that your visit would not only confer a great favour upon the University but that it would serve to strengthen the very warm feelings that now exist between France and the Dominion of Canada. This would be all the more effective because Toronto is the centre of the largest English-speaking Province of this Dominion.

In this request I have the cordial support of our Board of Governors and I know that the University as a whole will give you a warm welcome, especially as you have now for some years been an honorary alumnus.

With much respect, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

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AMBASSADE
DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE
AUX ÉTATS-UNIS

Washington, le Sept.19,1916

My Dear President,

I am very much obliged to you for your letter of the 15th inst., and the honor of your invitation, but alas, it is out of the question for me to avail myself of it. I have not half of the time I need for my official duties, and I cannot hope to find the means of preparing the lecture which you kindly ask me to deliver. Such a lecture would need very serious praparation to be at all worthy of such an audience.

You may have seen in the papers that I spoke about Lafayette at Fall River, but this was for me an absolute obligation, and it is indeed the farthest journey from Washington undertaken by me since the beginning of the war; circumstances do not allow me to renew it./.

With much gratitude for the request I sincerely appreciate, believe me,

Sincerely yours,

Jusserand

P.S.

Mr.R. A. Falconer

President of the University
of Toronto

P.S. - Your address on Progress has just reached me. I am very grateful to you for it. Its very qualities cause it to be not an encouraging, but a forbidding, model for me./.

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September 23rd, 1916

His Excellency,

Honourable J. J. Jusserand,

Embassy of France, Washington, D.C.

Your Excellency:

It is with great regret that I learn from your letter that you will be unable to come to us during the coming winter. As to the seriousness of the lecture I am afraid you rate our requirements very much too high. We should be glad to have you come and give us a general talk. Your presence itself would, I think, have very fine public influence in Toronto, and might be of great service to us in the Dominion. As you may be aware there are little local troubles between Quebec and the rest of the Dominion, and it would be good for us in the English-speaking part of the Province to be able to show our confreres in Quebec that we hold France in the highest honour. However, I cannot use undue pressure as you are aware as to what is possible in these trying times, but if on reconsideration you think you could come any time before the end of next April we should be delighted to have you.

Yours sincerely,

President.

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AMBASSADE
DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE
AUX ÉTATS-UNIS

Washington, le April 19, 1917.

Dear Mr. President,

I beg to offer the sincerest thanks for the intention of the University of Toronto of conferring the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws to Mr. Viviani, Vice President of the Council of Ministers, and to Marshal Joffre, in case it were possible for them to visit your city.

I do not know whether the brevity of the stay of my compatriots on this side of the ocean will allow them to go to Canada, which, of course, would be for them a most interesting visit. But I shall not fail to inform them of your intention, which they are sure to sincerely appreciate.

The fact that such a large number of former students of Toronto now sleep in French ground would certainly be one more inducement for them to visit your University.

Believe

President Robt. A. Falconer
University of Toronto
Toronto
Ont.

Believe me,

Sincerely yours,

Jusserand